



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's

# EXCITER

June 2008

Issue No. 447

## LOOK INSIDE FOR DETAILS:

- The RARS General Meeting is the 1st Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night @ 8 pm on 146.64.
- The RARS Technical and Trader's net is Saturdays @ 8:30 pm or following the RARS net.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

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## “Black Belt” Amateur Radio

Article by Don Downs WA4AVU

What do Taekwondo and amateur radio have in common? A few years ago, I would have answered, “Huh? What could Bruce Lee or Jackie Chan movies or breaking boards with your bare hands possibly have to do with ham radio?” But that was before my son announced that he wanted to study martial arts, and my mother-in-law (KB3HFE) convinced me that Taekwondo would be a great “father and son” activity.

I've been a licensed ham for over 30 years, and now that I'm a World Taekwondo Federation (WTF) Black Belt candidate, I can see some similarities in these two hobbies. Sure, in Taekwondo there is yelling, sparring, and (my favorite) board breaking. Yes, it is good for physical conditioning – I feel younger now (at 47) than I have in years!

But did you know that Taekwondo promotes service to others? Black belt candidates must complete an individual black belt project and participate in a charity project. On May 3rd, I joined 94 black belt candidates in Taekwondo, Hapkido, and Kumdo from White Tiger Martial Arts in the MS Walk. We raised \$8,865 for this event.

Of course, public service is an important part of amateur radio, too – in fact, it's the justification for our use of valuable spectrum (see Part 97.1). Speaking of the MS Walk, RARS was there providing communications for the event coordinators. That made this event a “twofer” for me: not only could I support our group charity project, but I could apply my amateur radio skills, as well.

In addition to Martial Arts skills such as forms, sparring, self-defense, and breaking, Taekwondo also promotes development of “Black Belt Character Life Skills.” These skills aren't just skills to be used in martial arts – they apply to every aspect of life. And yes, many of them apply to amateur radio.

The following are a few examples of the Black Belt life skills that I think apply to amateur radio. I'll draw mostly from public service and emergency

(Continued on page 5)

## RARS Officers

### President:

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**919.577.1254**  
**kg4rmt@earthlink.net**

### Vice-President:

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### Treasurer:

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# The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the Amateur Radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing

radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic need; to educate members in radio technique; and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family mem-

bers pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (RARS.org).



## The *Exciter*

The *Exciter* is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org). Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The *Exciter* welcomes articles, advertising, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor.

The views expressed in the *Exciter* are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces.

Editor:  
**Courtney Enzor**  
**KI4HOS**  
**editor@rars.org**

# President's Corner

Column by Selene Montgomery KG4RMT  
RARS President

I've just arrived home from the 2008 Hamvention in Dayton, Ohio. Although I'm not a technical person, it's hard not to come away from the USA's largest ham-fest without being on an amateur radio high. Dayton is a gathering of people who share an excitement for a hobby that the normal citizen does not understand.

Those that attend the hamvention come away rich in enthusiasm and maybe a little poorer in the wallet. There are many opportunities to see and buy the latest and greatest equipment as well as that well-used treasure lurking in the flea market calling your name. But when hams start talking to each other at Dayton, the first questions are not about their equipment, but about their personal statistics: *Where are you from? How long did it take for you to get here? How many years have you been coming to Dayton? How long have you been a ham? Do you know so and so who lives in your state? Where are you staying?* After all of that, the conversation might get around to your class of license and the equipment in your home station.

Many surveys have shown that in spite of the many purchasing opportunities and activities available at hamfests, both large and small, the main draw is the chance to shake a hand and get to know, in a small way, others who share a hobby that

revolves around communication. Dayton presents all of that, and more, on a very large scale.

Congratulations, Dayton Hamvention, on another successful event!

## RARS General Meeting

*Date:* First Tuesday of each month

*Location:* Forest Hills Baptist Church  
201 Dixie Trail  
Raleigh, NC 27607

*Time:* People begin arriving at 7 pm. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 pm.

## RARS Monthly Dinner

Join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for the RARS dinner. It's open to everyone: RARS members, non-members, friends, and family – feel free to bring your little ones!

Golden Corral @ 6129 Glenwood Avenue in Raleigh. Dinner begins at 6:30 pm.

## RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

145.13 (82.5 PL)

146.64

444.525 (82.5 PL)

Join us for the nightly RARS net @ 8 pm on the 146.64. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to checkin. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

## VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing at the February, May, August, and November RARS meetings; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARSfest in November; and following RARS license classes.

Please bring a photo ID, your current license, a copy of your current license, and any CSCEs you have for credit. Visit [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org) for more information.



## Ham Radio Public Service Opportunities

### **Tour de Cure – A Bicycle event benefiting the American Diabetes Association**

June 7-8, 2008: Cary to Oxford

### **Race for the Cure – A run/walk event benefiting the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation**

June 14, 2008: Downtown Raleigh (Meredith College to Brooks Avenue)

Sign up to volunteer at [www.hampublicservice.org](http://www.hampublicservice.org).

Questions? Email John Snellen: [AI4RT@hotmail.com](mailto:AI4RT@hotmail.com).

## April 2008 RARS Net Reports

Checkins: 423

Traffic: 29/24

Minutes: 636

Sessions: 30

Special Interest Nets:

Checkins: 90

Minutes: 540

Sessions: 12

## Upcoming Hamfests

- June 7 Atlanta Hamfest  
Lawrenceville, GA  
<http://www.atlantahamfest.com>
- June 8 The Manassas Hamfest  
Manassas, VA  
<http://www.w4ovh.net/>
- June 14 The Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest  
Winston-Salem, NC  
<http://www.w4nc.com>
- June 14 Delta Division Convention  
Knoxville, TN  
<http://www.w4bbb.org/>
- June 15 The 30th FARC Father's Day Hamfest  
Frederick, MD  
<http://www.frederickarc.org/hamfest.htm>

## June RARS Meeting

The June program will be a discussion of Field Day preparations, led by Neal Fisher N4HAF.

## June Birthdays

Bob	K1RCB	06/01
Charles	K14DCR	06/03
Gwen	KF4EUT	06/05
Shelby	NC4SH	06/06
Kelly	AE4FG	06/08
Phil	K9FIL	06/09
Charles	NZ0I	06/11
Tim	WB4BAH	06/11
Russell	KE4IFE	06/13
Jack	KF4EZT	06/17
Wayne	KD4SLQ	06/19
Steve	KA8HXX	06/21
William	W4AK	06/21
Bobbie	KD4ZVW	06/22
Lanny	K1LEC	06/24
Marian	K1MRB	06/24

## RARSFest

### Workers' Party

Attention RARSFest workers! If you haven't made your reservation for the RARSFest Workers' Party (to be held on May 31), you need to make your reservation ASAP. Make your reservation for this family event today via email to [hank@k4hm.net](mailto:hank@k4hm.net) (please include the number in your party) or call Hank Montgomery at 577-1254. For more information see [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org).

communications activities, since those are my favorite ham radio activities, but I think you’ll see that these skills apply to other aspects, as well.

## **Preparation**

Preparation is a common theme on the weekly ARES net. The goal of ARES is to provide communications to its served agencies. If you’re not prepared for an emergency by completing the required training, participating in the nets, preparing a “go kit,” etc., then you won’t be of much use in providing communications in the event of a disaster. Of course, hams apply preparation in other activities, as well. A lot of preparation goes into events such as the annual RARSfest and Field Day.

## **Dependability**

Dependability is an important skill in all of life, including amateur radio. Imagine the frustration of the event coordinators if those who volunteered to help out didn’t show up, or if they showed up unprepared. If we are going to be called upon to provide communications for public service events or to serve during disasters, we’d better be dependable.

## **Cooperation**

Taekwondo is a blend of individual performance and teamwork. While each belt rank is achieved based on individual skill, training is a cooperative effort. You typically train with a group of students and progress with them. As you do, you work together, helping each other develop new skills.

Amateur radio has a similar blend – we are licensed individually, yet we share the same spectrum and must cooperate if we are going to communicate. In fact, we often participate in cooperative ventures like Field Day and public service events. Can you imagine participating in a public service event without cooperation among volunteers? What if each ham thought, “Forget about the directed net – the traffic I want to pass is more important than what anyone else is trying to do, so I’m just going to key up and start talking.” The result would most likely be chaos!

## **Patience**

Snagging a rare DX station can require a lot of patience – especially if you’re not a “big gun” and rely on modest antennas and equipment. Busy nets like the annual MS-150 in New Bern can also require patience as you wait your turn to be recognized so that you can pass your traffic.

## **Communications**

Martial Arts promote self mastery, including mastery of relationships and communications skills. Of course, amateur radio promotes effective communications, too. After all, that’s what we do, right?

## **Applying Black Belt Skills**

As you can see, there is more to Martial Arts than meets the eye. Due to space constraints, I only listed a few Black Belt character skills in this article, but there are many more. All of them apply to life outside of martial arts, and most can be applied to increase your enjoyment or improve your operating skills as amateur radio operators. Through the application of these skills, we can all become “black belt” amateur radio operators. (But please – no breaking radios with your bare hands!) If you’d like more information on Taekwondo, feel free to contact me at [wa4avu@arrl.net](mailto:wa4avu@arrl.net).



# MS Walk 2008

**Article by Bob Conder K4RLC**

**Photos courtesy Larry Holt KG4FIQ and Bob Conder K4RLC**

Twenty ham radio operators provided communications for this year's Multiple Sclerosis fund-raising walk on May 3. For the first time, the MS Walk was held at the RBC Center and had 1, 3, and 5.5 mile walks around the center. Many of the crew were experienced public service operators. This year's group included:

- |                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| • Bruce KC4UQN  | • Neal N4HAF   |
| • Dick KD4ISC   | • Larry KG4FIQ |
| • Don WA4AVU    | • Al KE4IHX    |
| • Bill W1REP    | • Fred AG4WE   |
| • Mark WD4KSE   | • Karl K4LNX   |
| • James KG4ISM  | • Andy N14S    |
| • Sam K14FUD    | • Kevin KJ4BYG |
| • Alanna K4AAC  | • Bob K4RLC    |
| • Lauren KA4LHC | • Bobby W4RPC  |

We also had two hams who were spontaneous volunteers the morning of the walk! It was a great event, with nearly 5,000 walkers. Fortunately, there were no major problems or accidents. Over half a million dollars was raised for research into a cure for this crippling illness of young events.

The event was coordinated again this year by Alanna K4AAC and Bob K4RLC Conder, with assistance from their kids, Lauren KA4LHC and Bobby W4RPC. A good time was had by all, and we are looking forward to the event for next year.



## **Article by Joe (WA4GIR) and Liz (KO4CK) White**

The '08 RARSFest VE test session was again a very busy one. We had 54 people who tested with us. Of those, only 11 failed to attain the level they came for. We administered 67 exam elements and 46 received passing grades. Of the 43 individuals who attained new licenses, 6 upgraded to Extra Class, 16 to General Class, and 21 became new Technician Class hams. We had two people who passed both Tech and General exams. Five Technician Class hams from the class given earlier this month upgraded to General.

Additionally, one young man (11 years old) who passed Tech and General in Benson studied very hard after that and achieved his Extra with us at the session. It is very heartwarming to see that effort pay off. He was a recipient of one of the Dick Bitner Scholarship free exam sessions meant to get young people involved in amateur radio.

We liked the room setup this year. We could check in applicants in one area and give them their exams and grade them in an adjacent area. Last year we shared the space with a forum, but things were rearranged this year and worked out very well. In order to get finished prior to a forum meeting, we started the session at 9:00. When Joe and I arrived around 8:30, people were already waiting. We finished up shortly before 11:00, so the forum was able to begin on time.

Many thanks to our dedicated team for doing their usual outstanding job and getting everyone processed on time. The team included:

- Charlie Brown W4VFJ
- Neal Fisher N4HAF
- Rod Gilvey AB4RG
- Jim McRight KB4BZ
- John Snellen AI4RT
- Bob Starkenburg W4TTX
- Dale Whitlock AI4WF
- Vessie Whitlock AI4UP

Vessie and Dale are new members of the team, and it was great to have them helping. We were missing Julie (KI4OTM) and Larry (KI4FYR) Royster. Larry has been ill and did not feel up to coming out. We wish him well and hope to have them back with us soon.

We will be giving exams at the Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest on July 19.

## May 2008 RARS General Meeting Minutes

The general meeting of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society was conducted on May 6, 2008 at the Forest Hills Baptist Church located on Dixie Trail.

President Selene Montgomery KG4RMT called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

Selene welcomed everyone to the meeting and announced that VE testing was taking place in the room next door.

It was noted that minutes from last month's meeting were posted in the Exciter. There were no comments or corrections offered by the group.

The membership was reminded that contact information for the club's officers can be found on the RARS website ([www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)).

This month's Exciter contains a member survey. A deposit box is available for the survey at the back of the meeting room. Members can follow the directions on the survey to mail it or complete the form online. Selene thanked Ken KI4OTO, Rick KB4TKQ, and Rod KI4LSN for their work on the survey.

Greg Seamster KE4PAX provided the Treasurer's report. There are 257 RARS members. Greg reported there is \$587 left in the funds provided by the Dick Bitner Memorial Fund for the club to use toward education. This money has been and will be used to reimburse youth for VE test sessions and amateur radio classes. He also reported that the board is reviewing the budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. Anyone with budget requests should advise the board prior to the May board meeting. The budget will be presented to the membership for approval at the June meeting. Greg also read a thank-you note from the RARSfest Grand Prize winner, Robert McNeil.

### Announcements:

- The RARS dinner will be on Tuesday, May 13 at the Golden Corral on Glenwood Avenue at 6:30 pm.
- The May board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 20 at the Triangle Radio Reading Services building located on Six Forks Road. The meeting begins at 7 pm.
- Next month's program will be a presentation by Neal N4HAF on Field Day Preparations. The July meeting program will be on PSK31 presented by Justin KI4WAF. The August program will be on homebrewing power supplies and will be lead by Johnnie WA9SZL.
- Hamfests: Rockingham on May 10, Dayton on May 16-19, Durham on May 24, and Winston Salem on June 14.

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John Snellen AI4RT provided an update on the latest public service activities. He thanked those who participated in the recent Relay for Life and MS Walk events. Hams are needed to support the Tour de Cure bike event on June 7-8. The bike ride runs from Cary to Oxford and then returns to Cary. Hams are also needed for the June 14 Run for the Cure event in Raleigh. Additional public service activity information can be found on the [www.hampublicservice.org](http://www.hampublicservice.org) and [www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org) websites.

Rod Gilvey AB4RG reported on the success of the recent Ride for Kids motorcycle event.

Chuck Littlewood K4HF announced there would be a NC State Festival at the NC State Fairgrounds on June 5-8. The Red Cross has asked for our assistance in operating their radio room during the event. This is similar to the activity conducted during the State Fair. The radio room will be staffed on Thursday and Friday from 3 pm until midnight. The Saturday and Sunday times will be 10 am until midnight. Red Cross radios will be used for this event. No special training is required and new participants will be paired with experienced operators. Contact Chuck at [k4hf@arrl.net](mailto:k4hf@arrl.net) or check the RARS webpage ([www.rars.org](http://www.rars.org)) for details.

Virginia Enzor NC4VA reported that she is looking for a location to conduct classes for Technician and General licenses in the summer or fall.

Virginia also advised that tonight's SKYWARN net will be held at 9:15 pm on the 146.88 repeater. The topic will be the net activation policy. Next week's program will be on the accuracy of thermometers. A hurricane preparedness fair will be held on May 31 at the Triangle Town Center in Raleigh.

The following additional hamfests were announced: Cary Swapfest will be held in July. The Shelby hamfest will be changing locations and will move closer to Charlotte. Check the Shelby website for developing details.

Hank Montgomery K4HM reported there is some final collection of expenses data and book-keeping to be done for RARSfest. Overall attendance and apparent profits are up. This was a successful hamfest, and Hank expressed his appreciation for all who worked to make it so. There will be a workers' party held on May 31 at Crabtree Lake Park. Folks can begin gathering at 2 pm, and a covered dish dinner will be taking place later in the day. The club will provide meat and drinks. Everyone else is asked to bring a covered dish. RARSfest workers need to send Hank an email advising if they will attend and how many will be present. Family members of workers are welcome to the celebration. Send RSVP or regrets to [k4hm@arrl.net](mailto:k4hm@arrl.net).

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Hank also advised that this was his last year as hamfest chairperson. Chuck K4HF presented Hank with a plaque and expressed the club's appreciation for his work and dedication towards many of our hamfests.

Selene KG4RMT presented Dick Orander KD4ISC with a plaque in recognition of his three years of service as RARS Secretary. She also presented him with a certificate of appreciation for his efforts as acting Public Service Director from 2005-2007.

Door prizes were won by: KE4PAX, KI4WAF, KN4AQ, WA4EKJ, KG4IVD, KA8HXX, and K4LXV.

The floor was given to Rick KB4TKQ who introduced John Snellen AI4RT. John presented the evening's program on EMCOMM (emergency communications).

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Minutes taken by Dick Orander KD4ISC.

\*Special thanks to Dick for taking the minutes this evening!



Clockwise from above: Chuck K4HF presents Hank Montgomery K4HM a plaque for his outstanding job as the RARS Hamfest Chairman from 2001 through 2008 (photo courtesy Chuck K4HF). John Snellen AI4RT presents a program on EMCOMM (photo courtesy David Crawford KF4VXJ). RARS President Selene Montgomery KG4RMT presents Dick Orander KD4ISC a plaque for his outstanding job as RARS Secretary for 2005 through 2007. Dick also received a Certificate of Recognition for his great job as Acting RARS Public Service Director.



# April 2008 RARS Board Meeting Minutes

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society Board of Directors met on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at the Triangle Radio Reading Service located on Six Forks Rd, Raleigh, N. C.

The meeting was called to order by President Selene, KG4RMT at 7:06 PM. The following people were present: Selene KG4RMT, Hank K4HM, Greg KE4PAX, John AI4RT, Chuck K4HF, Rod KI4LSN, Ken KI4OTO, Steve KJ4BX, Gary KN4AQ, Rick KB4TKQ, Charles WB4DCM and visitors, Mike KB7NLA and David KF4VXJ.

The February minutes were read verbally by the Secretary and approved as corrected.

The March minutes were approved as corrected. Charles WB4DCM thanked Gary KN4AQ for taking the March minutes in his absence.

Treasurer Greg indicated that we currently have 256 members and \$49,000 in assets. YTD income is now in the positive. We need to think about a financial review. Greg stated that we had some contributions to other organizations yet to be made in this fiscal year. There followed a discussion about a contribution to Handi-Ham. A motion was made and seconded that: RARS should not make a donation to Handi-Ham because it is not a high priority for RARS at this time. A motion was made to table the motion but was not passed. The original motion was approved.

VP Rick stated that we received \$22 in donations for the refreshments for the April meeting. John AI4RT will present the May program on emergency preparedness. He then commented that he had heard positive comments about the ham fest and that some vendors reported an increase in sales.

## **Committee Reports**

Education: Virginia NC4VA was not present but indicated that plans were going forward for the summer.

Newsletter: Exciter deadline is April 21 and the May deadline is May 19.

Net Manager: Not present.

Hamfest: Hank stated that 1674 tickets were sold and that is 101 more than in 2007. We overspent our budget but we have more income. He anticipates a profit of about \$2600. The tables were sold out prior to the start of the fest and that 35 additional tables were set up the morning of the fest and all but 6 of those were sold. The profit per ticket increased over last year. The building appeared to be the correct size and it is available next year on the same weekend.

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Only problem is that weekend is Easter. The comments from attendees were very positive. There were a few complaints from dealers in the corner that it was too hot and noisy. Two observations: keep it on a Saturday and avoid conflicts with other hamfests. It was reported that two dealers had equipment stolen from them. That led to a discussion about security.

Web Master: Not present but President commented that the web needs updating.

Field Day: Neal not present but we will have one and will extra point operations.

VE Team: Will be a test at RARS in May.

Public Service: John AI4RT stated that the Run for Life is set for April 27 and that sufficient volunteers have been recruited. The Walk MS set for May 3 still needs 4-5 volunteers. Tour De Cure at Regency Park ---details to come.

ARRL: Chuck K4HF stated all is quiet. At the booth at the ham fest, we had both the director and vice-director and they seemed to enjoy the ham fest.

QCWA: Chuck K4HF said there was good response and that John Johnson, President of QCWA was very happy.

FM Repeater: Gary KN4AQ reported that use of the D-STAR repeater has doubled. He anticipates that the analogue repeater will be back in May.

Survey Committee: Rick and Ken passed out proposed questions to present to the membership. They hope to have them in the next *Exciter*. There was some discussion about the survey and what to do with the information once collected. There were no objections for the survey to be placed in the *Exciter*.

### **Comments from At-Large Board Members**

Rod KI4LSN: None

Steve KJ4BX: Good hamfest.

Ken KI4OTO: None

President Selene KG4RMT then raised the issue of the meeting room at Forest Hills Baptist Church. By using side rooms, the meeting room is adequate. However, for our October auction and December Christmas Party, that room will not be sufficient. She has talked with the Church Secretary and no other space is available for us. We will need to locate and alternate meeting place for those meetings.

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Treasurer Greg KE4PAX then presented a preliminary budget. The Board went through the line items and discussed.

There was no new business.

### **Board Comments:**

Gary KN4AQ told two stories from the hamfest. The first involved a new comer to ham radio that purchased an old hand held that did not work and the vendor would not refund the money. The second involved a new comer that got on the air at our N4C special events station.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:18 PM.

## K4RLC Gives Radio Station to American Red Cross

### **Article by Bob Conder K4RLC**

This year for my Clara Barton Society donation (in honor of the founder of the American Red Cross), I decided to give the Peartree Red Cross building a complete ham radio station. This included a Kenwood dual band (TM-V71A), an Astron power supply, and a Comet GP-3 antenna. This will allow the Red Cross to communicate with both State and Wake County EOCs, WakeMed, shelters, and Red Cross vehicles in the field. This month we routed over 100 feet of LMR-400 to the Disaster Services offices on the bottom floor and replaced an ancient Ringo Ranger with the new Comet on a 15 foot mast on the roof. I programmed the Kenwood with the frequencies in the two EOC radios. A test showed that we could hit all the repeaters in a reasonable range. Future plans include simplex testing of this radio and possible installation of an HF station for Disaster Services. We will also be teaching ham radio classes to Red Cross staff and volunteers.

Right: Patricia LeRoy, director of local Red Cross Disaster Services, accepts a donation from Bob Conder K4RLC, Wake County ARES Liaison to the American Red Cross.





The **RARS Technical & Trader's net** is held on Saturday evenings on the 146.64 after the 8 pm RARS net.

# Amateur Radio Nets



The **VOIP Hurricane net** is held Sundays at 00:00 UTC on the 146.775 repeater with a tone of 88.5 (IRLP node 4260). For information about activation details, go to [www.voipwx.net](http://www.voipwx.net).

Please join us on the **Carolina 440 net** every Monday night at 7:30 pm. This ragchew net utilizes the Carolina 440 UHF Link Repeater System. Comprised of the Raleigh, Down East, and Costal Wilmington link systems, there are currently 19 repeaters on the system, covering 21,168 square miles. For a list of these repeaters, please visit [www.carolina440.net](http://www.carolina440.net).



**CAROLINA 440**  
**UHF Link System**  
[www.carolina440.net](http://www.carolina440.net)

Join us every evening at 8 pm on the 146.64 repeater for the **RARS Two Meter net**. You can give a ragchew, check in and out (this counts for our total numbers reported to the ARRL!), make announcements, and pass traffic. We also offer National Traffic System traffic training. All licensed stations are welcomed to participate in the net as often as they can. This net is also a great way to learn about amateur radio if you are newly licensed!

The **PCTN (Piedmont Coastal Traffic Net)** meets every night at 9 pm on the 146.88. The purpose of the net is to handle/pass NTS formal messages. Amateur stations are encouraged to check-in and participate. The backup repeater is the 147.105 machine with a PL tone of 82.5.







Join the **Tarheel Short Wave Listening (SWL) Special Interest Group (SIG)** net on Monday evenings @ 9 pm on 146.64. We discuss all areas of radio monitoring and welcome your logs! We also have a SWL/SIG meeting on the third Monday of the month in addition to our regular net.

### Central Carolina SKYWARN

Please join us each Tuesday at 9:15 pm on the 146.88 repeater for the CCS net. On each net there are announcements, check-ins by county, and often a program or training spot. Check us out at [www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net](http://www.centralcarolinaskywarn.net).



### Upcoming Nets:

June 3: Review of the Suffolk, Virginia Tornado with Warning Coordination Meteorologist Jeff Orrock KI4KKX.



Same net – new name! The Mercury Amateur Radio Association Southeast 2 Meter net is becoming the **Apex Emergency Response Communications net (Apex ERC)**. The name change is effective March 30, 2008. The net will still meet at 9 pm Sunday evenings on the 146.64 repeater (temporarily). All stations are invited to participate in this net. The organization provides emergency communication support to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. The purpose of this net is to assist ham radio operators in preparing to respond to emergencies, test their equipment, improve operating skills, pass traffic, and to provide those with a common interest an opportunity to meet.



The **Wake County ARES net** meets Thursdays around 2115 on the 146.88 repeater. We provide discussion and training for the implementation and provision of Emergency Communications for our served agencies, such as the American Red Cross and the local and state Emergency Operations Center. Please join us. [www.wakeares.org](http://www.wakeares.org).

The RARS

***Exciter***

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Raleigh, North Carolina 27619

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## RARSFest's Youth Lounge Makes ARRL.net!

Check out a report on our recent Youth Lounge:  
<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2008/05/17/10098/>.

RARS is proud to foster awareness of the hobby  
for the next generation.